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certainly go far in counteracting the attempts of the sanitary authorities to reduce the number of rodent vermin.

Respectfully,  
 The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

STUART ELDRIDGE,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

*Plague in Osaka from September 11 to 27.*

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *September 29, 1900.*

SIR: As regards the outbreak of plague at Osaka, I have the honor to report that, from the appearance of the disease September 11 up to the 27th instant, there have been 26 cases.

The authorities are using all the means in their power for the control of the disease in Osaka itself, but I can not learn that the system of inland quarantine and inspection, which was strictly and effectively applied during the epidemic of last winter, has as yet been enforced.

Respectfully,  
 The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

*Report of maritime quarantine service at Kobe from June 30 to September 15, 1900.*

KOBE, JAPAN, *September 30, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to send in my supplemental report for the period from June 30 to and including September 15, 1900.

The number of vessels bound for the United States of America from Kobe was 33, 3 of these being sailing ships, while 9 left Kobe for Manila. Their various destinations are as follows: Fourteen to San Francisco via Honolulu, 7 to New York (one sailing ship), 3 to Tacoma, 3 to Seattle, 2 to Portland, Oreg., 2 to San Diego via Honolulu, 2 to Port Townsend (sailing ships), 9 to Manila; total, 42.

The nationalities were: British, 22; American, 7; Japanese, 7; German, 4; Norwegian, 2.

The hospital ship *Relief* came up from Nagasaki and remained in harbor here for a few days before returning to Nagasaki and Taku.

Two United States transports likewise came in to land their horses for a run ashore for some days before proceeding on to Manila.

The number of emigrants and steerage passengers taken on here and examined was 304. The number of Chinese steerage in transit from Hongkong examined was 830.

Another recurrence of plague occurred in Osaka on September 8, when 2 cases were discovered, after the city had been free from the disease for seventy days. Fourteen cases and 8 deaths were officially notified up to September 15. All the usual precautions were at once taken and continue to be carried out.

This district has been remarkably free from cholera this year, 1 case and 1 death being notified in July and 2 cases in August.

The Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company's steamer *Coptic* was placed in quarantine by the Japanese authorities on August 16, when on her voyage to Hongkong.

A Chinese rice farmer living 14 miles from Honolulu was taken on board as a steerage passenger on August 2, at Honolulu. On the steamer's arrival at Kobe on August 15 he was found to be suffering

from high temperature, buboes, and slight pulmonary trouble. The quarantine officers removed him from the ship and found the bacilli of plague in his sputa. The Chinaman died in the hospital on August 19, and was immediately cremated. The ship and contents were placed in quarantine for ten days. Baths were given on shore to each individual, both passengers and crew, sulphur burned throughout the ship, and decks, floor, and ceilings washed down with carbolic acid.

On cleaning steerage deck where this Chinaman had been living, three dead rats were found, recently dead, which on being examined on shore were said to be infected with the plague bacilli.

No other case of illness occurred on board the ship during her voyage or while she was lying for the ten days in quarantine.

Respectfully,

J. BUCKWILL FOWLER,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

#### MEXICO.

##### *Report from Vera Cruz.*

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, *October 20, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended October 20, 1900:

During the week 8 cases and 5 deaths were reported from yellow fever, and 39 deaths from all causes. No cases of smallpox were reported.

Five vessels were inspected and issued bills of health. Only 1 vessel carried passengers, steamship *Vigilancia*. She had 105 passengers, only 39 of whom were for Cuba and New York. These 39 were issued health certificates.

I send you under separate cover a full report of the commission that was appointed to witness the effects of the serum of Dr. Bellinzaghi upon yellow fever. The report is in Spanish, and I am afraid that a translation would suffer in my hands, so send it as it is.

I am indebted to Dr. N. del Rio for the report, and trust that it will be sufficiently interesting to have translated and published.

Respectfully,

S. H. HODGSON,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

#### NICARAGUA.

##### *Further concerning epidemic among pigs in Managua.*

BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA, *October 16, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make further reply to Bureau letter of September 6, 1900 (G.), as to an item in the Medical Record of the existence of a "dangerous epidemic causing the deaths of rats and pigs at Managua, Nicaragua." I had written a letter of inquiry to the U. S. consul at that place, and his answer just received pronounces the report a gross exaggeration, based on the facts "that on or about June 15 a few pigs were seen to drop over in the streets and die, and the government issued an order forbidding the sale of lard and the killing of pigs at the slaughter houses."

These precautions frightened the people and wild rumors were soon